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**Bob Brown,  
Russell Brown,  
Ross Kingdon,  
Wayne Gillcash,  
Lou Vesh,  
James Williston**

## President's Message

**Ross Kingdon** has advised that all the previously undistributed Free Woods for the year (2011) are being mailed Dec. 1st. Those that were not previously distributed at the convention or a local meeting or coin show are being mailed in cardboard inserts, for protection, and hopefully they will all arrive safely. Included, is the Free Wood for January 2012 which is our Editor's (**Judy Blackman**) Christmas flat which is distributed at this time as its message is appropriate for this time of year. I would like to thank **Ross** for all the effort in mailing or distributing the woods. On behalf of myself, **Ross** and all members of CAWMC, I would like to thank everyone who donated free woods in the past and especially in 2011. Contributors for 2011 were: **Judy Blackman, Lou Vesh, Calgary Numismatic Society, Norm Belsten, Canada Wide Woods, and France Waychison.**

Fall is the time to renew your memberships in all the clubs, including CAWMC, and I encourage you to fill in the renewal forms included in last month's bulletin. I have received a few renewals and expect to receive more in the near future. Membership renewals should be mailed to CAWMC at my address shown below. If anyone wishes to contact me on any issue you can reach me by mail at **Al Munro**, Box 2643 Station M, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 3C1, by phone at 403-273-6133 or by email at wood5cents@shaw.ca.

My wife **Marion** and I would like to extend a Merry Christmas wish to all members of CAWMC and extend heartfelt wishes for a prosperous 2012.

Good collecting to everyone.



## Scarborough Coin Club by David Bawcutt

The Scarborough Coin Club had our 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Coin Show at Cedarbrook Community Centre on November 5, 2011. About 160 people attended our show which had about 20 tables, a club table with free giveaways, 3 display tables, free draw every half hour and refreshments available. Our club produced a wood for the show and it was our 50<sup>th</sup> wood we have produced in a quantity of 100 with gold foil stamping both sides. The Scarborough Coin Club is celebrating our 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at our December 7, 2011 meeting at Cedarbrook Community Centre at 7:00 p.m. We have made our annual anniversary wood for the occasion in a quantity of 100 with purple foil stamping both sides. Our Club has been producing an anniversary wood each year since our 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1980, a show wood each year, we have 3 special woods and 1 error wood. There are 51 woods in our set. 13 woods are now sold out. The current set is available for \$25.00 which includes postage and single woods are \$2.00 which includes postage. Make cheque payable to Scarborough Coin Club. Mailing address is: 75 Clarendon Ave. Scarborough, Ontario M1N 3S2.





### Appointed Officers

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 Norm Belsten

**Distribution:**  
 Ross Kingdon

**Fund Raiser:**  
 Lou Vesh & Dave Gillespie

**Auction Co-ordinator and  
 Membership Dues:**  
 Al Munro

**Annual Membership Dues  
 in Canadian Association  
 of Wooden Money  
 Collectors are:**

- **Canadian Residents:**  
\$10, Cdn. Funds
- **Youth (16 years old  
 and under) \$5 Cdn.  
 Funds**
- **U.S. A. Residents:**  
\$10 U.S. Funds
- **International  
 Members Rate  
 (outside Cda. –  
 U.S.A.): \$20 Cdn.  
 Funds**

### Dues paid to:

Mr. Al Munro, P.O. Box  
 2643, Station M, Calgary,  
 Alberta, T2P 3C1, Canada

### Tis' the Season!

Tis' the season! This souvenir wooden nickel is from Mrs. Robert Buoker of Bellevue, Ohio. It helps you to remember all the names of the reindeer when you are singing "Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer". The obverse of this 33mm / 1.5" reads RUDOLPH on the left of the heart and MRS. SANTA CLAUS on the right. On Mrs.'s apron are the initials PLB. The reverse reads Blitzen, Comet, Cupid, Dancer, Dasher, Donder, Prancer & Vixen MRS. SANTA CLAUS c/o Mrs. Robert Buoker 1009 Castalia Bellevue, OH 44811



Here's another Ho-Ho-Ho wood!







#### Past Presidents:

**2003—2005:**  
Norm Belsten

**2001—2003:**  
Earl Salterio\*

**1995—2001:**  
Lou Vesh

**1991—1995:**  
Pat White\*

**1985—1991:**  
Norm Belsten

**1983—1985:**  
Neil Probert

**1981—1983:**  
Stanley Clute

**1979—1981:**  
Don Robb

**1977—1979:**  
Victor Hall\*

**1975—1977:**  
Garry Braunwarth

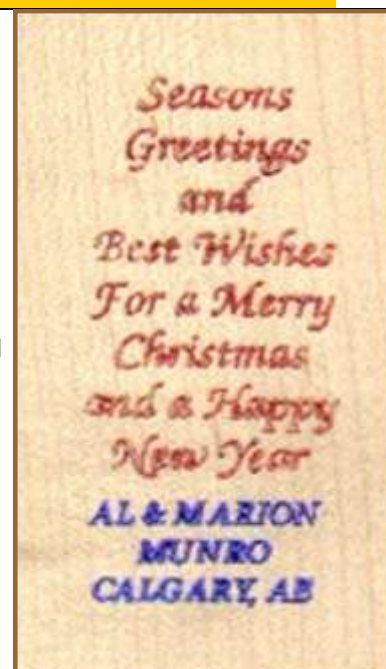
(\*Deceased)



### Munro Christmas Flat

Free Wood of the Month  
of December 2011

Our featured wood for December is **Al & Marion Munro's** Christmas flat made by **Norm Belsten** who reports **Al** ordered 350 and that meant 1,400 strikes to do the 2 colours per side on a hand-operated press. Ref. is 8140-384. The obverse with Frosty the Snowman reads "Seasons Greetings 2011" and the reverse "Seasons Greetings and Best Wishes For a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year **AL & MARION MUNRO CALGARY, AB**".

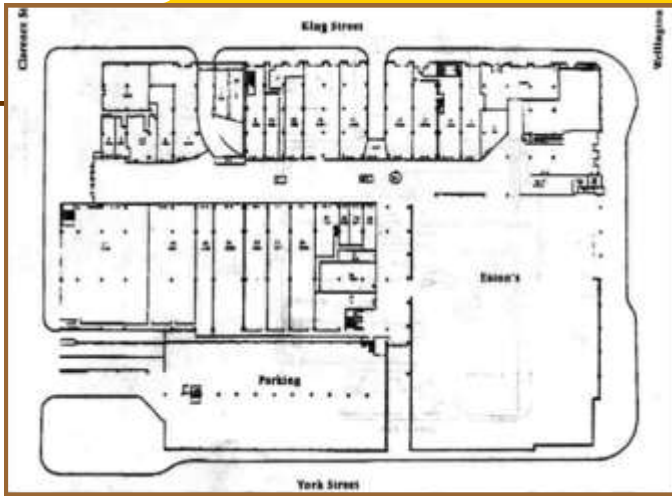


### Kamloops & District Coin Club



This is 9400-004 in Norm's catalogue. It was issued by the Kamloops Coin Club in 1968, quantity is unknown. It is 38mm round BL/BL. The obverse reads WOODEN NICKEL SOUVENIR. The reverse reads KAMLOOPS & DISTRICT COIN CLUB 2nd Annual Show Sept. 28-29, 1968 Good For Draw Ticket" and U.S.A. is upside down on the reverse indicating these were likely made in the U.S. or the blanks came from there.





## Wellington Square London Ontario

The Wellington Square opened on the site at 335 Wellington Street in downtown London (Ontario) on November 1st, 1960 as the first enclosed mall in Canada, and the first enclosed downtown mall in North America. It featured a five-story Eaton's, a Woolworths, was 400,000 square feet, and had rooftop parking. The site at Wellington and King Streets was once a McCleary factory. The 1960 floor plan for Wellington Square is shown to the left. It occupied what is now the lower level, southern portion of Galleria London.

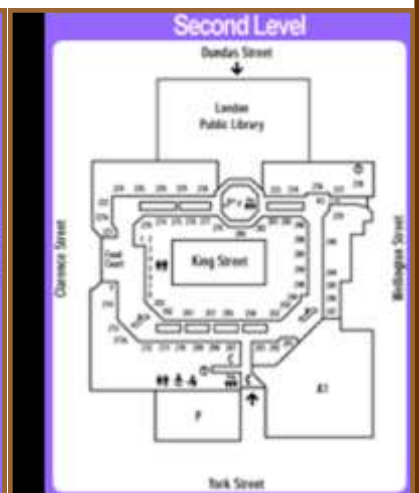
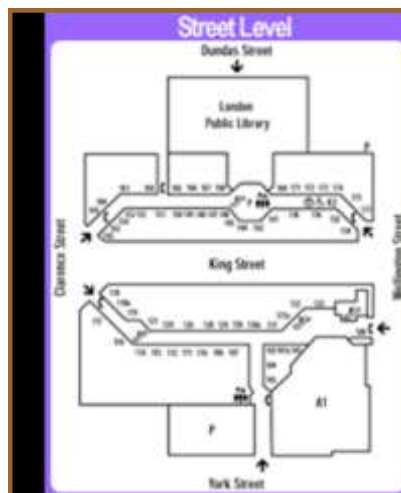
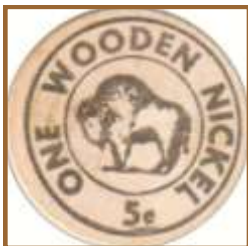
Wellington Square, and downtown London, had the run of retail in the area until 1971 when Westmount and 1973 when White Oakes malls

open as suburban competition for Wellington Square. By the late 1970s, as provincial control on retail expansion began to loosen, both areas would begin to drain retail sales out of the Wellington Square area. Once London abandoned its city master plan limiting retail expansion, Wellington Square began to lose momentum due to the traditional limitations of downtown shopping: traffic, convenience, and location. In 1980, the five-story Eaton's closed, then re-opened as a scaled down store. Still, the "Eaton Centre" as it was called, was a chronic under performer.

In 1986, Canadian mall giant Campeau rebuilt Wellington Square into Galleria London from the ground up. During the two year reconstruction, only Eaton's, the Elephant & Castle Eatery, and Bi-Way remained open. The Galleria was expanded from 70 stores to 120, and an additional 500,000 square feet were added on to what was tentatively called "London Square". The square has a racetrack design on the upper level with two pedestrian bridges over King Street, and a 1,500 space underground parking garage. The project cost \$150 million Canadian in 1987 dollars, and ultimately led Campeau into bankruptcy. In 1996 Galleria London, according to surveys the fifth worst performing mall in all of Ontario, is purchased from RHK for \$46 million Canadian by a real estate consortium managed by the United Food & Commercial Workers Union.

From the 1989 rebuild, Eaton's and The Bay anchored the Galleria London. However, the property itself, which features 120 spaces for stores and two anchors in a square that occupied two blocks and included two walkways over King Street, struggled to maintain tenants as the economy in the area declined. The Galleria itself took a lot of business from the surrounding business district, draining downtown London of some of its vibrancy. 30 years of poor planning on the part of London Regional Council didn't help either. The 1997 bankruptcy filing of Eaton's didn't help matters. The story of Eaton's is in and of itself fascinating, and if you have the chance, you should read about it. As Eaton's failed to evolve, blaming the Canadian economy in the early 90s, then later NAFTA and it's allowance of American retailers into the marketplace, and the business community in London continued to worsen, the Galleria began hemorrhaging tenants. When Eaton's filed for bankruptcy reorganization in February, the plan was to close 31 of 85 stores, including the one in Galleria London, which averaged sales of only \$35 per square foot in a 100,000 square foot store in 1996. Eaton's store did close, but the external signage and window dressings remained in the property until early 2000, when the entire chain was shuttered. The Bay remained as the sole anchor in the Galleria London until March of 2001, then it too closed its location at the Galleria. A large majority of retail tenants fled thereafter.

Of the 120 spaces, approximately 20 retail establishments remain. However, The Bay's anchor property was sold to the London Public Library for \$5.8 million Canadian in February of 2001. The former Eaton's property was converted into offices, and renamed, somewhat ironically, Wellington Square. The Wellington Square portion of the property houses Honeywell, Tele Tech telemarketing, and Stephenson & Sons Insurance. This is impressive, as the economy of London is such that the city has not added any office space over the last 10 years, yet the former Eaton's property is somewhat successful by real estate standards. Maps of the Street and Second Levels of Galleria London, built on the former Wellington Square site in 1986, and reopened in early 1989.







Galleria London serves downtown London as a mixed use property. The London Public Library has significant facilities in the former Bay location, a fitness center thrives, several doctors offices occupy space, a bargain Rainbow Cinemas flourishes there where a Cineplex Odeon once stood, and the University of Western Ontario's Continuing Studies program is housed there as well. There is foot traffic, and the food court is moderately successful. As a mall in the traditional sense, however, Galleria London's days are over. For the London region, the White Oaks mall, nearer Highway 401, and with more tenants, parking, and better anchors, is king of retail.

Pictures right side: The three story London Public Library, located on the northern end of the property. This was once The Bay. Next picture is looking west on the upper level from near the library entrance. The upper level, former entrance to Eaton's. Lower level, York Street entrance. This is near the Elephant and Castle, the only tenant remaining from the Wellington Square days. Goodlife Fitness occupies the entire lower level of the mall, and is fairly popular, by all accounts. As you walk past Elephant and Castle, the barren state of retail at this mall begins to set in.

Pictures left side: A shot from the upper level, southeast portion of the mall near the entrance to the former Eaton's location. An upper level view near the York Street (East) entrance. Another portion of the Eaton's space is being converted to classrooms.







Left side: Elevators, fountains, and lights, just like every other mall. These elevators brought people to and from the parking garage, and let off in front of the former Bay store. Next is a shot of the ceiling architecture, looking West from the library. The Canada Trust/Toronto Dominion Bank towers visible from the roof of the northeast portion of the mall. The London Public Library purchased the former The Bay store in 2001 for \$5.8 million Canadian, and did an extensive remodel of the interior. However, the label scar of The Bay still remains on the upper concrete, as evidenced above. Right side: Check out a book, have lunch at Burger King, and get a Prostate exam, all in the same mall. The food court walkway over King Street. This picture faces West (The east side of the Galleria). Wellington Square sits on the former Eaton's store space. The first floor windows used to house displays for Eaton's, and are now frosted over for office use. This is the South side of the mall, facing York Street. This is also a remodel of the original Eaton's that sat on Wellington Square throughout the 1960s. A second walkway over King Street. This is the other side of the Galleria. The Continuing Studies Program of Western Ontario University exists in part of the former Eaton's property. A second look at the former The Bay store, renovated and reopened as the main branch of the London, Ontario Public Library. **Wellington Square Woods listed in Norm's catalogue: 5500 -013 (1972 10,000 BL/BL), 014 (1973 10,000 R/R), 015 (1974 40,000 B/B), 016 (1975 10,000 R/R), 017 (1977 12,000 BL/BL), 018 (1978 15,000 GR/GR)**







## Enterprise Ranges & Furnaces



Norm Belsten's catalogue 3500-001 is *Enterprise Ranges & Furnaces* (Sackville, New Brunswick) of 1958, R/R, 38mm round wood. The obverse reads DON'T TAKE WOODEN NICKELS FOR THE REAL MCCOY SEE OTHER SIDE. The reverse reads BE WISE Choose Enterprise Ranges & Furnaces.

'Cast Iron Quality Since 1852' Located in Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada, the present day **Enterprise Fawcett** is the product of a small beginning that started back in 1852 by Mr. R.M. Dixon and a number of leading farmers under the name *Dominion Foundry Company*.

It is believed that some of the early work produced by the foundry was made to supply the sailing ships of the era. However, the main products have always been cast iron cook-stoves and furnaces. The foundry was built near the Sackville wharves as the heavy, brittle castings required special consideration for transporting. Later, the railroad established a station nearby which enabled the plant to continue to transport its products. Over the years the foundry prospered and employed more than 400 workers. At one time Enterprise was the only company in the world manufacturing a complete line of cooking products using wood, coal, oil, gas, electricity and microwave energy all in one factory.

Enterprise assets were sold in the early 1980s to *Enheat Inc.*, also of Sackville. It then amalgamated its Fawcett Division with Enterprise to form *Enterprise Fawcett Limited*. Enterprise Fawcett has been passed down from Grandfather to Grandson to

Brother and is now owned by Darren Wheaton, a long time veteran of the company.



Monarch



BLUENOSE

Here the skills of generations of craftsmen came together in the production of the world's finest cook-stoves.

The original molds, made from wooden patterns carved by hand, inspired the Legacy Series. The Monarch, King, Savoy Oil and Savoy Wood cook-stoves combine authentic styling with today's standards. Their craftsmen still manufacture the cook-stoves the way they did more than a century ago, however today these cook-stoves are either CSA or ULC listed, with the exception of the Queen, Woodsman and Little Cod. We also manufacture furnaces and heaters on site. Enterprise Fawcett is one of the few remaining foundries in the world.



Queen Cook

## Gold Nugget Motel & Drive-In Cafe, Yale, B.C.

This **Gold Nugget Motel & Drive-In Café** wooden nickel is 9900-001 in **Norm Belsten's** catalogue. It was issued in 1973, is 38mm round, and print is BL / BL. **The Gold Nugget Motel** is located at 31185 Trans-Canada Hwy., Yale, British Columbia V0K 2S0. Phone: (604) 863-2444, GPS 49.688355, -92.494886. Yale is an unincorporated town in British Columbia (Canada) founded in 1848 by the Hudson's Bay Company as Fort Yale by Ovid Allard, the appointed manager of the new post, who named it after his superior, James Murray Yale, then Chief Factor of the Columbia District.

Yale rose to prominence as the inland terminus of the Fraser River sternwheelers and a waystation for those travelling up and down the Fraser River. Explorer Simon Fraser himself camped there in the summer of 1808, after his horrendous trip down the river that now bears his name. In its heyday at the peak of the gold rush, it was reputed to be the largest city west of Chicago and north of San Francisco. It also earned epithets such as "the wickedest little settlement in British Columbia" and "a veritable Sodom and Gomorrah" of vice and violence and lawlessness. Located at the southern entrance to the spectacular Fraser Canyon, the town of Yale is one of southwestern British Columbia's oldest and most historic communities, having been the bustling steamship navigation capital during the Gold Rush.

Like many towns in B.C., Yale's fortunes followed that of the Gold Rush. In 1858 gold was discovered on a gravel bar just 2 miles south of Yale on the Fraser River. This place was soon known as Hill's Bar named after the prospector who found gold there. The discovery of gold caused a massive influx of people to pour into the region from all over the world, the majority of which came from the California Gold Rush of 1849. At the height of Gold Fever in 1858, this town boasted 20,000 residents. In 1862 the government paid for a road that started in Yale and went for 400 miles to a gold mining town called Barkerville. The narrow, steep, rocky road was called the Cariboo Wagon Road - today's modern highway follows much of the old road. During the period of railway construction in the 1880's Yale became the main supply centre for all the work in the Cascade Division of B.C. The railway that now passes right through the middle of Yale in front of the museum and church is the Canadian Pacific Railway.

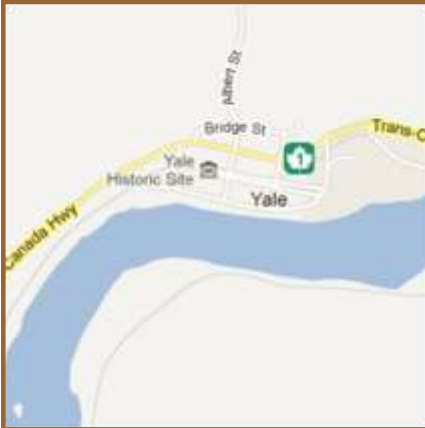
Today the residents of Yale number only 200. Though the gold ran out, Yale continued prospering, as it still does today as a forestry and service centre. Historic Yale is only a 15-minute drive north from Hope on the Trans-Canada Highway 1. The site is right beside the highway as it goes through Yale. Even if you're going east via Highway 3, it's a convenient side trip. Yale is located on the Trans-Canada 1, on the bank of the Fraser River, 16 miles (26 km) north of Hope. To the north of Yale are the communities of Spuzzum and Boston Bar.

Yale played an important role in certain events of the gold rush period which threatened to throw B.C. over to American annexation, the Fraser Canyon War and McGowan's War, and it is to Yale that the Governor (on the first occasion) and the government officials (on the second) - Begbie, Brew and Moody came to address American miners and take control of matters that threatened the rule of the Crown over the Mainland (or "New Caledonia" as it was called before the creation of the mainland colony, although that term originally applied to the fur district northwest from present-day Prince George). Yale is generally considered to be on the dividing line between the Coast and the Interior.

Immediately north of the village the Fraser Canyon begins, and the river is generally considered un-navigable past this point, although rough water is common on the Fraser anywhere upstream from Chilliwack, and even more so above-Hope, about 20 miles south of Yale. But steamers could make it to Yale, good pilots and water conditions permitting, and the town had a busy dockside life as well as a variety of bars, restaurants, hotels, saloons and various services. Its maximum population during the gold rush was in the 15,00 range, although typically it housed 5-8,000. The higher figure relates to the evacuation of the Canyon during the Fraser Canyon War of 1858.





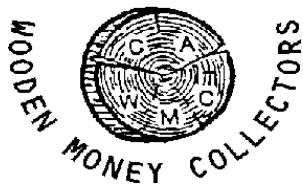


Most of today's population are members of the self-governing Yale First Nation. Non-native businesses include a couple of stores, restaurants and a few motels and other services, as well as gas stations and automotive repair and rescue outfits. The Yale area is the lowest main destination for the Fraser-River rafting expedition companies and several have waterfront campgrounds and facilities near town. All Hallows is now a campground and hostel. Not much of the gold rush era Yale survives, as the docks vanished long ago and the railway ran down the main street of what had been town. The Yale Museum is located on old Front Street, adjacent to the tracks, and next to it is the Anglican Church of St. John the Divine, among the oldest in B.C. Visible history is mostly atmosphere, and in good weather the town's setting is spectacular. Every summer, a historical re-enactment group visits Yale to celebrate the Royal Engineers, who had served under Moody during McGowan's War and worked on the Cariboo Wagon Road and the Douglas-Lillooet Trail and were an integral part of Yale's life from the gold rush to the end of the 1870s.



The Beatles wooden nickel. The Beatles faces are on the front with their names. The backside says "Don't Take Wooden Nickels" - "For The Real McCoy See Other Side". It measures 1-3/8" or 1-1/2" in diameter.



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## Prince George Chamber of Commerce Centennial

from Darryl Atchison

The article below is from the Prince George Citizen which was published on September 22nd, 2011. It is self-explanatory. It reads: The Spruce Dollars: The old adage about not taking any wooden nickels had a much different connotation when it came to the Prince George Spruce Dollars. Indeed, tourists and collectors from all over the world went to great lengths to possess the Spruce Dollars designed and established by the Chamber of Commerce. The large wooden coins were made from Western white spruce from the forests surrounding Prince George. It all began in 1958 when the late Harold Moffat, president of the Northern Hardware, suggested a need for a unique city symbol and tradition to promote the city at conventions, conferences, trade shows, parades and more. The coins were negotiable for merchandise in local stores, and were readily accepted by the city's banks, which would redeem the coins and then return them to the Chamber for payment, said Roy Spooner who was the Chamber's manager in the late 1960s and board president in 2010. "They became a good fund-raiser for the Chamber. Calls came in from all over the world from coin collectors willing to pay \$1.50 per coin to have them in their collection, and many had standing orders to receive each new coin issued," he said. He noted when the pulp mills came, there were some years the dollar was made out of pulp to show another side of the forest industry, "but they were a challenge to print." In 1958, the year that B.C. celebrated its 100th birthday, the Chamber printed its first Spruce Dollar and the city entered a 105-foot-long float in the Grey Cup Parade in Vancouver. This biggest float ever (at that time) was led by six loggers carrying a 500-pound paper mache log. Riding on the float were Prince George's first Queen Aurora, Lynne Alexander, and princess Anne Kuenig and Judy Janaka. The North's industries and peoples were well represented by Indian people, canoe and paddlers, gold miners, fur traders and dancing can can girls. Century Sam and Simon Fraser were also aboard while Ray Williston, B.C. Minister of Lands and Forests, walked beside the float and threw out about 3,000 Spruce Dollars to the crowd, said Alish Rubadeau, assistant curator at The Exploration Place. Throughout the years the Spruce Dollars commemorated special events and happenings. In 1975 the coins honoured the Prince George Mohawk team as the Coy Cup champions while in 1968 the theme was the opening of the instant town of Mackenzie. Annual production of wooden coins stopped about 2007, but a 'special Spruce Dollar has been printed

this year to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Prince George Chamber of Commerce. The Spruce Dollar shown here may be purchased through the Chamber office for \$5.00 per item. This will be the final issue printed.



## The Spruce Dollars

The old adage about not taking any wooden nickels had a much different connotation when it came to the Prince George Spruce Dollars. Indeed, tourists and collectors from all over the world went to great lengths to possess the Spruce Dollars designed and established by the Chamber of Commerce. The large wooden coins were made from Western white spruce from the forests surrounding Prince George. It all began in 1958 when the late Harold Moffat, president of the Northern Hardware, suggested a need for a unique city symbol and tradition to promote the city at conventions, conferences, trade shows, parades and more. The coins were negotiable for merchandise in local stores, and were readily accepted by the city's banks, which would redeem the coins and then return them to the Chamber for payment, said Roy Spooner who was the Chamber's manager in the late 1960s and board president in 2010. "They became a good fund-raiser for

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2011 | WWW.PRINCEGEORGE.CA

